



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2009

No. 171

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Reverend Matthew Southall Brown, Sr., St. John Baptist Church, Savannah, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Our Father, we are confident that You are here in the midst of all of us, so as we gather here this morning, we ask for Your wisdom and courage for the Members of this august body as they face the challenges of this day.

Lord, I pray, lead them and guide them in matters facing this Nation and indeed the world. We live, my Father, in a time when "men are trying to war their way to peace, spend their way to wealth and enjoy their way to Heaven."

Lord, it is our prayer that each Member of this House of Representatives be sensitive to Your voice, the needs of the people of America and indeed throughout the world. May the decisions made here be for the good of America and the world.

Hasten the day, Father, when men will "beat their war tools into pruning hooks and study war no more." Finally, my Father, we pray for our President, Barack Obama, his family, and all leaders of this great Nation.

May this Nation once again hear the words of the Lord Himself saying, "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land."

It is in the name of Him Who said, "If I be lifted up from the Earth, I will draw all men unto Me."

It is in His name we pray. Let the people of the Lord say amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REV. MATTHEW SOUTHALL BROWN, SR.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my friend, Rev. Matthew Southall Brown, Sr., who delivered the invocation for the House this morning.

If history is biography, then the history of the civil rights movement in my home of Savannah, Georgia, is the biography of Matthew Southall Brown. He got involved in the movement before there was a movement helping to bring about the end of one era and the birth of another.

During World War II, Rev. Brown was serving as an Army non-com in Europe when the Battle of the Bulge broke out. In those days, blacks were confined to supporting units. But when men were needed to fight, General Eisenhower called for black soldiers to volunteer infantry duty. Rev. Brown was one of the 2,221 who answered that

call, even though he had to give up his rank to do so.

Later, answering a different call, Rev. Brown was chosen to lead Savannah's historic St. John Baptist Church. For over 35 years, Pastor Brown not only led his church family; he was a leader in the movement to secure equal rights and equal opportunity for everyone in our community.

Rev. Brown, thank you for being there with my father in Europe and for your willingness to give your life to help us win that war, even when it was unfair. But more importantly, thank you for spending your life to help us win the peace. Sometimes it's an awful lot easier to fight for your country than it is to live for your country. You've done both, and for that we salute you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRIBUTE TO THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF REV. JESSE JACKSON'S RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the contributions of a truly great American who is with us today, the Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson.

Twenty-five years ago, Rev. Jackson embarked on a trailblazing run for the Presidency which really did energize our Nation and was an inspiration to millions. Many Members of this body are here today as a result of the movement Rev. Jackson led.

Rev. Jackson's run for the White House gave us more than hope. He showed us how to build a serious grass-

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H13071